

DON YOUNG in developing this legislation. The villagers of Elim have a strong champion as the Chairman of the Committee on Resources and without his dedication to their cause we would not be here on the House floor today. I urge that my colleagues support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOBSON). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3090, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AQUATIC RESOURCES RESTORATION IN THE NORTHWEST AND CALIFORNIA

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1444) to authorize the Secretary of the Army to develop and implement projects for fish screens, fish passage devices, and other similar measures to mitigate adverse impacts associated with irrigation system water diversions by local governmental entities in the States of Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Idaho, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1444

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AQUATIC RESOURCES RESTORATION IN THE NORTHWEST AND IN CALIFORNIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In cooperation with other Federal agencies, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and in consultation with the Bureau of Reclamation, may develop and implement projects for fish screens, fish passage devices, and related features agreed to by non-Federal interests, relevant Federal agencies, and affected States to mitigate adverse impacts to fisheries resulting from the construction and operation of water diversions by local governmental entities in the States of Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho, and California. Priority shall be given to any project that has a total cost of less than \$2,500,000.

(b) GOALS.—The goals of the program under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) to decrease the incidence of juvenile and adult fish entering water supply systems; and

(2) to decrease fish mortality associated with the withdrawal of water for irrigation and other purposes without impairing the continued withdrawal of water for that purpose.

(c) PARTICIPATION BY NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.—Non-Federal participation in the program under subsection (a) shall be voluntary. The Secretary shall take no action that would result in any non-Federal entity being held financially responsible for any action unless the entity applies to participate in the program.

(d) EVALUATION AND PRIORITIZATION OF PROJECTS.—Evaluation and prioritization of

projects for development and implementation under this section shall be conducted on the basis of—

(1) assisting entities in their compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.);

(2) cost effectiveness;

(3) size of diversion;

(4) availability of other funding sources; and

(5) opportunity for biological benefit to be achieved with improved conditions.

(e) REQUIREMENTS.—A fish screen, fish passage device, or related feature shall not be eligible for funding under subsection (a) unless—

(1) it meets the requirements of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service, as applicable, and any State requirements; and

(2) it is agreed to by all interested Federal and non-Federal entities.

(f) COST SHARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) Development and implementation of projects under this section on lands owned by the United States shall be at full Federal expense.

(B) The non-Federal share of the cost of development and implementation of any project under this section on lands that are not owned by the United States shall be 35 percent.

(2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—(A) For any project under this section on lands that are not owned by the United States, the non-Federal participants shall provide any lands, easements, rights-of-way, dredged material disposal areas, and relocations that are necessary for the project.

(B) The value of lands, easements, rights-of-way, dredged material disposal areas, and relocations provided under this paragraph for a project shall be credited toward the non-Federal share of the costs of the project under paragraph (1).

(3) OMRR&R.—(A) The non-Federal interests shall be responsible for all costs associated with operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, and replacing all projects carried out under this section on lands that are not owned by the United States.

(B) Costs associated with operating, maintaining, repairing, rehabilitating, and replacing all projects carried out under this section on lands owned by the United States shall be a Federal expense.

(g) CONSULTATION AND USE OF EXISTING DATA AND STUDIES.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with other Federal, State, and local agencies and make maximum use of data and studies in existence on the date of enactment of this Act.

(h) LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING.—No project applicant pursuant to this section may obtain funds under this section if they are also receiving funds from another federally funded program for the same purpose.

(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—(A) Not more than 1/3 of the total amount of funds appropriated under this section may be used for projects in any single State.

(B) Not more than 6 percent of the amount of funds appropriated under this section for a fiscal year may be used for administration of this section.

(3) INTERIM REPORT.—Upon the expiration of the 3d fiscal year for which amounts are available to carry out this section, the Secretary of the Interior shall report to the Congress describing the accomplishments to date under this section and the projects that will be completed with amounts provided

under this section for the 4th and 5th fiscal years for which such amounts are available.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1444, and to include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1444, as amended by the Committee on Resources, will authorize the Secretary of Interior, working through the Fish and Wildlife Service and in consultation with the Bureau of Reclamation, to implement projects to construct fish screens, fish passage devices and other related measures to mitigate the effects of water diversions caused by irrigation systems.

The bill was introduced by my good friend, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), both of whom are going to speak and explain the legislation. But I would like to commend them both for the hard work that they have put into this effort. Without them, surely the bill would not be here on the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, State and Federal law currently require the installation of fish screens on many irrigation diversions for agriculture to protect migrating juvenile salmon. While the Federal and State agencies responsible for managing the Columbia River system have worked diligently to install fish screens and fish passage devices, more work is urgently needed.

H.R. 1444 would allow State and Federal agencies to continue installing fish screens and fish passage devices. Furthermore, the Secretary will be required to consult with other Federal, State, and local agencies to make maximum use of data and studies in existence on the date of enactment of this act.

I believe this bill will help protect the salmon resources of the Pacific Northwest while allowing the agriculture industry to continue its operations. This is a noncontroversial bill and I hope everyone will support it.

Mr. Speaker, before I reserve the balance of my time, let me just make note that Marcia Stewart, who is here with us today, legislative assistant to the chief counsel, has done yeoman's work on this bill and has been a great help to all of us over the last several years since she has been with us. She came to us 6 years ago in 1993, and has been extremely successful. As a matter of fact,

the last bill that she staffed for us here on the floor passed 412 to 0. So, Mr. Speaker, we are pleased that she has been with us and such a productive member of our staff and we will certainly miss her.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill does have strong bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. And shortly, we will hear from the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN), my colleague. He and I are the original cosponsors of this legislation in the House.

H.R. 1444 would set up a fish screen construction program for irrigation projects in Idaho, Washington, Montana, Oregon, and California.

This is a bill that is good news for salmon, other fish species which are on the verge of being endangered or threatened, and good news for local economies, for farmers, and good news for the Federal taxpayers.

It requires a local match share of 35 percent. But with the Federal Government investing these funds in the fish screens, ultimately we may avoid the endangerment of numerous species of fish and help promote the recovery of salmon. Today, many of these irrigation diversions are unscreened and salmon smolts do not do too well when they are pulled out of the main stem of the Columbia or one of its tributaries and deposited into an irrigation ditch or an irrigation project which does not return directly to the river or the tributary.

Mr. Speaker, this simple step will prevent that in the future. We should be screening all the diversions on fish-bearing rivers in the Northwest and into California because we are investing hundreds of millions, ultimately billions of dollars elsewhere to help recover these species. But for the lack of a few dollars being spent at each of these diversions on both Federal lands and private lands, many of those dollars are not being spent as effectively as they could.

So, this legislation is a win/win for both the fish and the farmers and the taxpayers, and I recommend it to my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Hood River, Oregon (Mr. WALDEN).

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, it is sure nice to stand here today and recognize that we have built a partnership that will actually get things done, and I want to commend the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO), my colleague, for his work on this legislation and thank him for his involvement in this.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1444, a bill that will help protect the threatened and endangered salmon stocks on the West Coast while assist-

ing the farmers who are voluntarily seeking measures to protect these stocks, albeit at great financial cost.

Under H.R. 1444, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Reclamation would be allowed to develop and implement projects for fish screens, fish passage devices, and other facilities in the States of Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho and California. These fish screens would prevent juvenile and adult salmon from passing through irrigation diversions and gaining access to ditches and water intake devices.

Mr. Speaker, presently, irrigation districts throughout the West are being mandated to comply with the Endangered Species Act. In order to comply with the ESA and other regulations, irrigation districts are required to construct these sophisticated devices to prevent salmon and other fish from gaining access to their ditches. The construction of these devices come at great expense to the farmers, without any return on their capital costs.

Under H.R. 1444, farmers would be allowed to enter into voluntary agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the Bureau of Reclamation to share the costs of construction of these fish screen devices. Privately held lands and irrigation districts would have to put up 35 percent of the cost with the government paying the remainder.

The farmers in my district, including those belonging to the Lower Valley Ditch District in Wallowa County and Talent Irrigation District in Jackson County say this is exactly the type of assistance they need to help them be able to protect these salmon and other fish in the rivers and streams.

They are not looking for a way to avoid ESA; they are merely looking for an affordable way to provide the systems to help prevent the loss of fish.

This cost-share program gives our farmers in the West some assistance in building these environmentally friendly fish screening devices, while simultaneously easing the burden of taking affirmative, proactive actions. It is a win/win proposal for the fish and the farmers.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support passage of H.R. 1444, the DeFazio-Walden fish screen bill.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) for his assistance in drafting and moving this bill through the House. As he pointed out, the need is great. In fact, numbers I have seen estimate that we could spend more than twice the amount of money allocated for these five states in Oregon alone to take care of this problem. So this is not an ultimate solution, but it is a down payment and something that will help us move along in protecting these fish in the Pacific Northwest and in northern California.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON).

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) for yielding me this time. He has been on the forefront leading this effort to help the salmon fisheries throughout the entire Pacific Northwest, and for that I am greatly appreciative.

Mr. Speaker, virtually every salmon stock in northern California has been added to the endangered species list. State and Federal regulations have cut fishing effort to an all-time low and this has had a devastating impact on the area that I represent in California, not just for the sport and the commercial fisheries, but for virtually every industry or every community of interest that has to operate in that part of these great United States.

Mr. Speaker, we need to do everything that we possibly can to help bring back the salmon stocks in the Pacific Northwest, and my district is no different. This is one very important step to be able to provide help for screening in regard to water diversions. It is going to help a great deal. It is not only going to help the coastal area that I represent, but the inland area as well.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and ask all of my colleagues to vote in support of this measure.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON). He has been a real force in helping to move this legislation forward, and particularly in making certain that his State and his district are included within the scope of the legislation. Without his perseverance, that would not have happened.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to thank a few staff who helped with the issue. Although this would seem kind of like a no-brainer since it is good for fish, the farmers, the economy and the Federal taxpayers, it was not easy working with the numerous agencies of jurisdiction and potential jurisdiction, and it took a while to wend our way through this maze. So Cynthia Suchman, Ben Grumbles, Bob Faber, Steve Lanich, and Kathie Eastman of my staff were all key with helping move this bill forward.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SAXTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1444, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to plan, design,

and construct fish screens, fish passage devices, and related features to mitigate adverse impacts associated with irrigation system water diversions by local governmental entities in the States of Oregon, Washington, Montana, Idaho, and California.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1100

COMMEMORATING THE “I HAVE A DREAM” SPEECH AT THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2879) to provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the speech of Martin Luther King, Jr., known as the “I Have A Dream” speech.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 2879

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ADDITION OF PLAQUE AT LINCOLN MEMORIAL COMMEMORATING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JUNIOR’S, I HAVE A DREAM SPEECH.

(a) PLACEMENT OF PLAQUE.—The Secretary of the Interior shall insert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque to commemorate the speech of Martin Luther King, Jr., known as the “I Have A Dream” speech. The plaque shall be placed at the location on the steps where Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered the speech on August 28, 1963.

(b) ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS.—The Secretary of the Interior may accept contributions to help defray the cost of preparing the plaque and inserting the plaque on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial as required by subsection (a). Amounts received shall be credited to the appropriation supporting the maintenance and operation of the Lincoln Memorial.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HOBSON). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) and the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN).

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2879, introduced by the gentlewoman from Kentucky (Mrs. NORTHUP).

H.R. 2879 would provide for the placement at the Lincoln Memorial of a plaque commemorating the speech of Martin Luther King, Jr., known as the “I Have A Dream” speech. The plaque would be placed in an appropriate location on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial where Dr. King delivered his famous civil rights speech on August 28, 1963.

This bill also directs the Secretary of the Interior to accept contributions to help offset any costs associated with the preparation and placement of the plaque.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important bill and has bipartisan support. I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 2879.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2879 directs the Secretary of the Interior to insert on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial a plaque, a plaque that would commemorate the speech of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., known as the “I Have A Dream” speech.

Several years ago, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS), who was present and was one of the speakers that famous day in 1963 along with Dr. King, was instrumental in a campaign by school children and others in establishing a permanent exhibit at the Lincoln Memorial commemorating the important civil rights events, including the “I Have A Dream” speech that occurred at the Memorial.

It is our understanding that H.R. 2879 is noncontroversial and that it is consistent with what has been done previously at the Memorial to commemorate similar events.

I strongly support passage of this legislation and this permanent commemoration of that historic speech in American history.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Kentucky (Mrs. NORTHUP), the author of this legislation.

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, all of us are touched each year as we see how many Americans, particularly school children, come to Washington to, not just view the buildings, but to be inspired by our history and be inspired to become leaders themselves.

They move around this city, they come to this Capitol, they come to our memorials, and they are reminded as they stand in the places that previous leaders have stood, as they understand what role those leaders had in the history of this country.

I had a constituent that came to Washington in 1997, and he wrote me the most moving letter, and I would like to read a couple of paragraphs from that letter.

He said, “My wife and I walked to the Lincoln Memorial where, at the steps of the Memorial to one of our Nation’s greatest Presidents, Martin Luther King delivered the ‘I Have A Dream’ speech.”

“I looked for the spot on which Martin Luther King stood when he spoke. I looked for a marker to remind me and others for a single moment on a hot August day, a descendant of a slave held the most prominent space in our Nation and delivered words that will always stay with that space. I could not find a marker or the words on that step.”

Later in his letter, he said that “I saw a day when I would bring my yet unborn children to the spot where Martin Luther King spoke, and I could show them that marker and read them the words of his dream. I could tell them that this is still a Nation where a

simple Kentucky farmer could rise to the heights of President, and the son of a slave could inspire future generations with the power of his words and his compassion.”

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to imagine that school children and Americans from all over this country could come and walk in this most important spot in this Capital, see where our leaders have changed the course of this country’s history, and not have a recognition that, on that spot, on those steps was a place where Dr. Martin Luther King gave his “I Had A Dream” speech.

For many of these children, it might be the first time that they ever really would be called to understand what “that place in history” meant.

But for those of us that can remember the changes that went on between 1960 and 1965 and the role that Dr. Martin Luther King had in calling us forward to change the laws of this country and the practices that separated us so badly, it is important that all Americans recognize that spot and that leader and the difference that he made in this country.

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no other requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. LEWIS).

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Oregon for yielding me this time. I want to thank the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN) for bringing this legislation along with the gentleman from Oregon before us.

It is fitting and appropriate that a plaque be placed near the statue of Lincoln near the Lincoln Memorial in honor of the speech “I Have A Dream” by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. That speech was delivered on August 28, 1963, on a very hot summer day.

On that day, Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke from his soul. He spoke from his heart. He said, “I have a dream that is deeply rooted in an American dream.” I was there that day, 23 years old. When Martin Luther King, Jr., stood to speak, he was not just speaking for himself, he was speaking for all Americans, not just for those of us 36 years ago now, but he was speaking for ongoing generations.

So this plaque, “I Have A Dream” plaque, would inspire generations yet unborn, inspire young children, would help make us one Nation, one people, one family, the American family, the American community.

It is my hope that all of our colleagues would join in together and support this little piece of legislation, that it would serve as a footnote, but more than a footnote, it would serve as a page in the history of our long struggle toward creating a sense of community, the beloved community.

Mr. Speaker, I again want to thank these two wonderful men for bringing this legislation before us today.

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, along with my earlier comments on the need for passage